

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned

International Appln. No.: PCT/EP00/03638

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Priority Date Claimed: 23 April 1999 (23.04.99)

For: PROMOTER-TRANSACTIVATOR SYSTEM FOR INDUCIBLE HIGH-LEVEL  
MAMMALIAN GENE EXPRESSION WITH THE OPTION OF CELL GROWTH  
CONTROL

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10/15/02

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to the examination of the above-identified patent application kindly  
amend the application as follows:

In the Claims:

Kindly rewrite claim 4 as follows:

4. (Amended) Process for inducible high-level mammalian gene expression with the option of  
cell growth control comprising the steps of

- (a) transfecting or transforming mammalian cells with an expression vector or  
expression vectors, respectively, according to claim 2,
- (b) culturing said mammalian cells, or transfected or transformed mammalian  
cells according to the expression vector(s) of claim 2, in a suitable medium,  
and,
- (c) optionally, controlling the growth of said mammalian cells by varying the  
concentration and the duration of exposure to estradiol in the medium.